



2004 Wisconsin Cable Restraint and Snare Regulations

Supplement to the 2003 Wisconsin Trapping Regulations

PUB-WM-442-2003

This brochure is a summary of Wisconsin's new cable restraint laws; it is not a complete set of laws.

On January 1, 2004, the following rules pertaining to the use of cable restraints on land went into law. Since the effective date of these rules occurred well after the printing and distribution of the 2003 Wisconsin Trapping Regulations, this addendum to the trapping regulations was required.

Cable Restraints

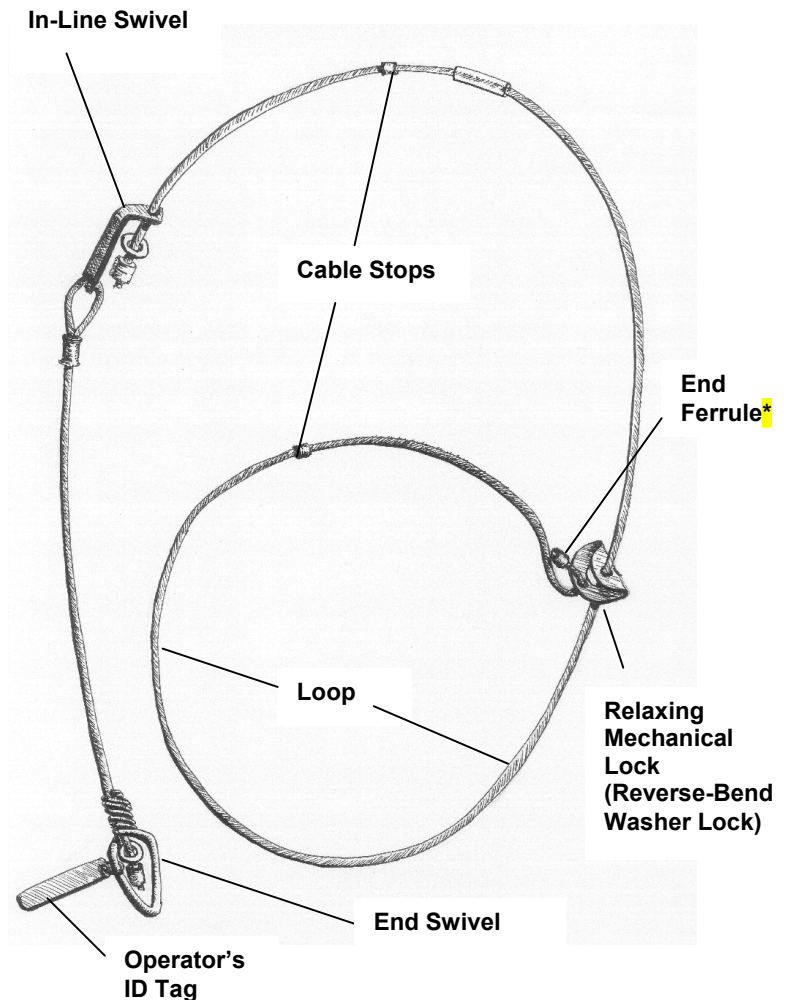
Definition:

In Wisconsin a **Cable restraint** is defined as a noose used for restraining furbearing animals which is NOT set or staked in such a manner as to permit the restraint device or the trapped animal to reach water that is not frozen.

Regulations:

Cable restraints may **ONLY** be set, placed or operated for **fox and coyotes and only from January 1 to February 15**, provided the cable restraint conforms to the following specifications:

- Non-spring activated, constructed of galvanized aircraft cable and includes a relaxing mechanical lock and swivel.
- Tagged with a metal tag stamped with the name and address of the operator.
- Cable length of 7 feet or less, of 7 bundles comprised of 7 wires per bundle or 7 bundles comprised of 19 wires per bundle, with a diameter of 1/8 inch or 3/32 inch, respectively.



Note: 7 bundles comprised of 7 wires per bundle or 7 bundles comprised of 19 wires per bundle are also referred to as 7 x 7, or 7 x 19 construction, respectively.

- Cable stops shall be affixed to the cable to ensure that the portion of the cable which makes up the noose loop may not be longer than 38 inches when fully open, or less than 8 inches when fully closed.
- The bottom of the set cable restraint loop may not be less than 6 inches nor greater than 12 inches above the first surface beneath the bottom of the set cable restraint loop, where the surface is ground, ice, crusted or packed snow or any other hard material.

- A cable restraint shall include a breakaway device or stop rated at 285 pounds or less; a reverse-bend washer lock with a minimum outside diameter of 1 1/4 inches; and staked in a manner that does not allow the animal or the restraint device to reach any part of a fence or rooted woody vegetation greater than 1/2" in diameter. ***Note: The illustration shows an end ferrule that is also the breakaway device. This device requires a specialty tool and it is highly recommended you purchase these already attached to the cable. The other breakaway version includes a "J" hook breakaway added to the relaxing lock.**

Additional Restrictions:

It is illegal to retain any raccoon taken incidentally with a cable restraint from January 1 – February 15, unless it is during the open season for raccoons.

It is illegal to use or possess a cable restraint used for the purpose of capturing rabbits or hares.

It is illegal to capture migratory game birds, upland game birds or any game animal, except fox and coyote, with a cable restraint.

It is illegal to set out or place cable restraints, whether set or sprung, during the closed season.

It is illegal to set any cable restraints at any time within 15 feet of any beaver dam, except when trapping under the landowner authority established by s. 29.337, Stats.

It is illegal to set any cable restraints at any time within 25 feet of exposed bait.

Snares

Definitions:

In Wisconsin a **Snare** is defined as a noose used for restraining furbearing animals in a water set.

A **Water Set** is defined as any trap or snare which is set or staked in such a manner as to permit the trap, snare or trapped animal to reach water at any point that is not frozen.

Regulations:

All snares shall be:

- Non-spring activated, constructed of galvanized aircraft cable and include a relaxing mechanical lock and swivel.
- Tagged with a metal tag stamped with the name and address of the operator.
- At least one-half of the set snare is located underwater at all times.
- No more than 5 feet in total length (including the noose cable and noose attachment).
- Made of cable wire that does not exceed 1/8" diameter.